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FLOOR DEBATE

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I can't tell you exactly, but I could probably call him and find out what he anticipates. But he's got space for many, many, many years of landfill.

SENATOR PREISTER: So the existing landfill has land surrounding it that hasn't been used that could be used to expand that landfill.

SENATOR ENGEL: Yes, that's correct.

SENATOR PREISTER: Okay. That may not be the case with other landfills, though, and this legislation would cover any landfill. It would give the permission to any other one to do this, correct?

SENATOR ENGEL: But, if I might respond to that, every one of them has to have a permit from...they still have to have the blessing of the DEQ.

SENATOR PREISTER: Correct.

SENATOR ENGEL: They cannot just go ahead and do this. So I'm certain that the DEQ would probably take that into consideration.

SENATOR PREISTER: They would have the ability to assess each permit individually that...

SENATOR ENGEL: Each permit individually, yes. And the only way they can use these grass clippings and so forth is for fuel generation. They cannot use...put it in for any other reason, like they're doing in Omaha, I believe, and places like that.

SENATOR PREISTER: And currently, Senator, in Omaha, the landfill is...the yard waste is separated and doesn't go to the landfill. It goes to a composting site where it is composted, broken down, and it's turned into a product called Oma-Grow and then it is sold back to customers, anyone who chooses to buy it, as fertilizer. So once we've taken all this material off our lawns, then we put it right back on, so it's actually recycled, which I think is a beneficial use.